



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

07/06/2011 Minutes

Open Space Committee

Minutes July 6, 2011, Approved, October 5, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 pm.

Present: Elizabeth Karpati, David White, Ann LeRoyer, Lisa Decker, Joey Glushko, Leslie Mayer, Jane Auger

Minutes from April 6 and May 4 2011 were reviewed, and approved with corrections to the April minutes.

Brian Barber was a guest at the May 4 meeting, and a discussion was held regarding presenting Mill Brook project explanatory panels at Town Meeting.

No official meeting was held in June 2011 due to lack of a quorum

Cooke's Hollow: A proposed zoning by-law change to allow cremains was defeated at Town Meeting. More education will be necessary before resubmitting next year, possibly at Town Day this fall.

Mill Brook Project: A meeting with the ARB (Arlington Redevelopment Board) is being sought. The explanatory panel presentation at Town Meeting was successful.

Joey has worked with Adam Kurowski on GPS locations to begin mapping out the Mill Brook corridor and find discrepancies. This will be translated into a GIS map. If others wish to be involved in this process, Joey will send out an email to the Open Space Committee.

Ann suggested perhaps a video or virtual tour with the assistance of ACMI (Arlington Community Media Inc.) in addition to guided walks, perhaps beginning this Fall before Town Day 9/17/11.

New members on ARB are: Ted Fields, Christine Scypinski, Michael Cayer

Lisa – suggested designing a clean-up project for a section of Mill Brook to involve Boy Scouts, maybe Hurd Field area or Drake Village.

Discussed kayak race or rubber duck race as publicity in spring 2012, which could ideally involve school children, high school students, scouts, etc.

OTHER PROJECTS -

Lisa – Suggested working towards reducing pavement around town. Recent Tree Committee work was reviewed
 Elizabeth – Discussed the continuing war on invasive species -Black Swallowwort is in bloom now.

Joey – The path from the Boy and Girls Club along Spy Pond was always assumed to be public access, but is not really so. Should we request an official easement?

Land Trust and Conservation Committee have also been working on this. There are no existing official records addressing this access. The entire perimeter strip should be included or it will not be useful.

The South edge path along Spy Pond has been newly redone, and can be accessed near Spy Pond Pkwy or from Pleasant Street.

PROJECT REPORTS

David White

RESERVOIR: The Wildlife Habitat Garden is doing well. On Saturday 7/9/11 from 9am-12pm there will be a wood chip spreading project. A permanent water line is in place thanks to the DPW.

Water chestnut problem to be addressed later this summer; mechanical & manual harvesting

ARLINGTON TOWN PAGE: Joan Roman does announcements for the webpage.

COOKE'S HOLLOW: The old sign has been removed, and a new sign is needed. A sign similar to the DPW generated sign at Turkey Hill is expected.

GREAT MEADOWS: The FoAGM Annual Report has been distributed. Upland Meadow work is on-going

BUSA FARM: A final decision from the Lexington Selectmen is still pending.

BIKE PATH: The farmhouse on the bikepath is still for sale.

Leslie Mayer

WELLINGTON: The tennis courts are being redone.

THORNDIKE: The off-leash dog park plan is being developed, and may be in progress by fall.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The New Commissioner is Shirley Caniff.

ROBBINS FARM: The slide renewal project is underway, and will be supported by joint Town capital and Friends fund-raising efforts.

The Robbins Farm Garden project is doing well, and is considering overwintering this year.

ALL AREAS: Problems are arising with unauthorized usage without permits. Boot camps, fundraising, meetings, and classes have been reported and observed in different parks around Town. Also, unauthorized signage has become a problem, including banners advertising events from Soap Box Derby to the Greek Festival.

Elizabeth Karpati:

This year's Vision 20/20 event was rained out.

Lisa Decker:

Town-wide tree planting project is underway.

Jane Auger:

MENOTOMY ROCKS PARK: Clean-up days are scheduled for this summer.

The August 3rd meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for September 7th, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12pm.

Submitted by Jane Auger